



County of Los Angeles
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February 28, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

**BOARD MOTION REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY SPECIFIC
PREVENTION PROGRAM IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY - STATUS REPORT**

The purpose of this memo is to provide a status report and request an extension until June 1, 2007, for submission of the next status report to your Board in response to the March 14, 2006 motion by Supervisors Knabe and Yaroslavsky. The motion instructs the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), in partnership with the Children's Planning Council (CPC), the Commission for Children and Family Services (Commission), Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN), and the New Directions Task Force (NDTF) to submit a plan that identifies what is required to fund, organize, test, implement, contract for, and administer a community-specific prevention program in Los Angeles County, including a pilot and implementation timeframe. The motion was in response to a report on preventing child maltreatment jointly prepared by the Commission and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

To date, four status reports on collaborative efforts to create a shared vision and set a strategic direction for establishing a community specific child maltreatment prevention system in Los Angeles County that integrates and enhances the many County programs and resources that promote healthier communities, stronger families, and thriving children have been issued to your Board on July 17, August 17, September 27, 2006, and January 8, 2007.

As reported in the January 8, 2007 status report, the efforts toward achieving a community specific child maltreatment prevention system in Los Angeles County are being developed in two phases:

Phase I will use DCFS fund balance from Fiscal Year (FY) 2005-06 to provide increased funding to Family Support Network (FSN) contractors and their collaborative partners to provide enhanced prevention and family support services to at-risk families in communities and families known to DCFS. Phase I strategies to be implemented by the FSN contractors include: strengthening community-based social networks through community engagement and organizing processes based on a philosophy of Asset Based Community Development; promoting family economic success; organizing/maintaining a coordinated continuum of community-based services, supports, activities, and resources; and hiring a DCFS Community-Based Division Chief to lead the prevention effort. The Department also plans to submit the Phase I proposal to your Board for approval prior to the end of FY 2006-07.

Phase II planning, known as "Healthier Communities, Stronger Families, and Thriving Children," is underway. Phase II will emphasize a partnership between residents, government, other community institutions including: faith-based organizations, nonprofits, schools, and the private sector to improve the quality of life for children and families so that the risk of child maltreatment is effectively reduced. Phase II will initially be implemented in select "demonstration communities" and will consist of: promoting healthier communities, stronger families, and thriving children through a multi-departmental/agency approach to integrated supports/services; selecting demonstration sites to test the comprehensive, integrated, and customized approach; establishing Community-County partner roles/responsibilities; and establishing protocols for developing Community-County action plans and evaluation models.

On August 8, 2006, acting on a motion by Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Knabe, your Board directed the CAO to work with the Casey Family Programs on prevention and service integration. In response, Casey Family Programs has been engaged as follows:

- On February 9, 2007, the Casey Family Foundation convened an Empowerment Evaluation seminar for stakeholders outlined in your Board's March 14, 2006 action. This Casey Family Foundation evaluation model will be used to further define performance measures for all prevention programs.
- Casey is continuing to research local and national prevention best practices models that can be applied to Los Angeles County's prevention and related service integration program design.

It is anticipated that the final draft of the Phase II design will be presented to the County's NDTF for endorsement at its May 8, 2007 meeting.

Each Supervisor
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If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Lari Sheehan of my staff at (213) 893-2477, or lsheehan@cao.lacounty.gov.

DEJ:LS
CP:hn

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
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New Directions Task Force Members
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Commission for Children and Family Services
Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect